



# Shuttlecock

September 2008

Manhattan Beach Badminton Club

## *Presidentially Speaking...*

Stephani Armstrong

What a great Junior International Tournament. About 140 participants from all parts of the globe competed. I've been watching these tournaments for many years now and it never ceases to amaze me how talented these kids are.

This tournament just keeps getting better and better. Thank you Roy Skinner, Dean Schoppe, and Jack Tarr for leading the charge and making it all happen

year after year. And I know you were not alone. They say it takes a village to raise a child. . . well it takes a club to put on a tournament, and it looked like almost every member of MBBC helped in some way – from housing kids, to calling lines to flipping burgers. We cannot thank you all enough.

It's September already! Enjoy the best weather month of the year!

*President@MBBadmintonClub.com*



## Membership News

*Peter Steinbronner*

### Membership Status:

|                                 |     |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| Associate Members:              | 88  |
| Intermediate Associate Members: | 28  |
| Regular Members:                | 250 |
| Provisional Members:            | 20  |
| Legacy Members:                 | 1   |
| Instructor Members:             | 6   |
| Playing Members:                | 36  |
| Honorary Members:               | 14  |
| Junior Playing Members:         | 35  |

With school right around the corner...it reminds me of a quote by the great American philosopher...Yogi Berra ... when asked about his kids education, he replied, "I'm not going to buy my kids an encyclopedia. Let them walk to school like I did."

Now that I have your attention...No resignations in August...there's...BIG NEWS...

Five couples have attained the level of Intermediate Associates...which means fifteen years service in the Club. They are: Mona & Sam Iskander, Alison Edwards & Bob Schuchard, Natalie & John Kravek, Ann & Mike Pitts, Debi & Rocky Wilson.

Even better NEWS....two couples have been in the Club, twenty years and we are honored to have them as our newest Associate Members. They are: Becky and Richard Maynard, Kathy and Wally Miglin.

Congratulations to all of you.

*VicePresident@MBBadmintonClub.com*

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Manhattan Beach, CA 90266  
310.545.9052

### *Board of Directors*

Stephani Armstrong  
*President*

Peter Steinbronner  
*Vice President*

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Alison Edwards  
*Secretary*

DeDe Davis  
*Adult Badminton*

Kelly Costopoulos  
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Tammy Lipps  
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Steve Snively  
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Bob Lauson  
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Bob Steinberg  
*Past President*

Neil Leventhal  
*Communications*

*Shuttlecock@MBBadmintonClub.com*

**Kelly Costopoulos**

*JuniorBadminton@MBBadmintonClub.com*

**.....ATTENTION ALL MBBC MEMBERS.....**

Anyone interested in workdays credits and would like to like to work a shift at the hometown fair please call Kelly Costopoulos at 310-545-5050 to schedule a time. We will have three booths this year. Our booths will be a lemonade/Arnold Palmer booth, chinese food booth and the beer garden!

All three are very popular and will be lots of fun to work. Call to schedule a four hour time slot...don't miss out on the fun.

The Junior International Badminton Tournament was a huge success this year (*See Roy Skinner's article on page 4*). Please check the next issue of the Shuttlecock for the results.

**Secretary's** Report

**Alison Edwards**

*Secretary@MBBadmintonClub.com*

**Roster Pictures:** Sunday, September 14 & Sunday, September 28, 6-8 p.m.

OK, I know you like that picture in the roster from 1995: the one where your son is missing his two front teeth and your daughter's wearing pigtails. Never mind that they're in college now, YOU look GOOD in that picture...

Well, I'm sure you'll look just as good in a new, updated photo. Slap on your

glad rags and plan to be at the club for your close-up on Sept. 14 or 28th between 6 and 8. We will make you look great – we promise!

Failing that, e-mail your family's recent vacation photo/holiday card to me at the MBBC e-mail address above, or [alison.edwards@southbaybrokers.com](mailto:alison.edwards@southbaybrokers.com).

Best one gets a prize at the November meeting!

## A "BIRDS" EYE VIEW OF THE 2008 JUNIOR INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENT

*Roy Skinner*

Each year, when I start to write about the tournament, I try to think of new ways to present a picture of this, the 16th Annual Junior International Tournament. Try as I may, it comes down to dedicated MBBC members working long hours to produce a product that will make 143 players and their supporters happy, namely a tournament that is the Premier Junior tournament in the United States. With so many people to thank it could sound like the Oscar ceremonies but I will try to list a few people who stand out and deserve a big round of THANKS !!!!!.

Dean Schoppe, whose father started this tournament, has continued Wes Schoppe's dream and has brought it to fruition. He is responsible for setting all the draws and seeds. With his ability to speak Spanish, his talents are immeasurable. Lenny Schoppe, on loan from Idaho, was the glue of the tournament. If something needed to be done Lenny did it. We had to buy him a new pair of shoes with all the walking he did.

Lee Calvert, the hard-working lady, secured scorekeepers, trained them and had them ready to go out on the courts for their scoring activities, has been our mainstay in this most difficult position. Her ability to coerce people to score matches is amazing and necessary since each match needs and gets a qualified scorekeeper.

This year our Official Referee was Elaine Kong, who is an internationally-qualified referee, and is presently serving in this capacity at the Beijing Olympics.

Diana Linden, our Deputy Referee, is not a

member of MBBC, but has a son Edward, playing in the U22 bracket. Her dedication to this position was remarkable and also necessary as many decisions had to be made during the course of the tournament.

The match desk was handled by many people, too many to mention, but their ability to put matches out on time was fun to watch. A four-hour stint earned them one workday credit.

The draw desk was more than capably handled by Dean(I want that Countries T shirt) Romein, Sue Dommeyer and Theo Spazek. Theo's dad Terry used to work this position and I would hate to choose between them who was the best. With the Tournament Builder computer program setting up the daily matches was a whole lot easier.

The kitchen, again, with the wonderful aroma of hamburgers, sandwiches of all kinds, set the tone and fired up the appetites of players and non-players alike. Debra Duncan has again surpassed all expectations and her crew, both children and adults ran like a well-oiled machine. Patrice Jackson did all the buying and Bill Otoide was a constant feature working the grill like a fry cook. His Chinese Chicken salad concoction, with his secret dressing, was a killer and I don't mean literally.

Our famous parties, both Junior and Adult were again events the kids looked forward to. Along with Hawaiian food, music and conversation, young and older alike, had a very enjoyable evening thanks to Rick and Paula Fiore with the Juniors and Randy and Lissen Schnack for

the adults. Talk about efficiency, the epitome to say the least.

The pool party with music, pizza, sodas and plenty of water time was created and headed by Kelly Costopoulos. I always want to put too many “u”s in her name. Another award winning event.

We had luck this year in finding Noelle Merritt, who took over the reins from Victoria Bundy as Housing Chair. The whole scenario of finding homes for many players never missed a beat from the previous two years. Noelle’s mother was a God send, as she had to take two players to the Mexican Consulate, one had lost his passport, and secured a new passport for the player. The following morning that lad was on his way home.

Bruce Thompson had the endless job of picking up and delivering players to LAX. I’m afraid to ask how many trips he made but he’s on a first name basis with all the security people. Hopefully he did not tangle with the shuttle bus drivers who are “known for their courtesy”.

T-shirt and medal design came from the talents of Julia Tedesco, and I mean talents. Julia’s production this year was a gold medal winner and hopefully she will be back in 2009.

Patti Bundy is the one who gets this whole thing started by sending emails and US mailing of entries and invitations to Badminton clubs throughout the World. Without her efforts there would be no tournament. With 143 players representing 8 badminton clubs, she really is an important part of our program.

I had best mention here that our program layout

and construction plus getting people to work the draw desk, fell on the more than capable shoulders of my wife, Bobbi. All you husbands know that omissions of this sort leads to all sorts of dire consequences and so I have fulfilled my responsibility to her and the program.

Patti Neumann, I saved her for last, because words can’t describe what she does behind the scenes. Entries, both email, US mail and computerized, banking, spreadsheets, post tournament accounting, sending of required information to Badminton USA, and the beat goes on.

Please give a nod and a “como esta” to our coach Wei Zhong, who instructed so many matches. He was tireless.

Folks, I know this is long but if you have seen these people mentioned, and many not mentioned, in action, you would understand the appreciation and admiration I have for these volunteers. Many of them don’t need workday credits and many do not have kids in the program. All it takes is a phone call to me, Roy Skinner, to become a part of the 17th Annual Jr. International of 2009. Please call.

Finally, I would like to thank the patron donators for the over \$3400 donated to offset the cost of this tournament. The response this year was the best ever, and I, the committee and the Junior program, can’t thank you enough.

I somewhat apologize for the length of this article—in reality it should be longer, but enough is enough. Badminton is a wonderful sport and you, and your kids, should experience the learning and competition it brings.

## *Around the House*

*Steve Snively*

*HouseChairman@MBBadmintonClub.com / 310.546.2036*

Hope everyone had a great summer. The club made it through in great shape.

Thanks to Ray Russell for securing the wooden railing leading to the pool for installing the ladies room bench. Thanks also to George Ortiz for fixing the 18th street entrance door.

Our next workday is Saturday September 13th. There are plenty of things to do, so come help out and get your workdays out of the way.

If you have trouble making workdays, but have handyman capabilities, let me know. There is always a need for minor (and some not so minor) maintenance that can be done at about any time.

Please Remember: Guests who will be using the pool need to sign in upon arrival.

## Entertainment

Tammy Lipps

[Entertainment@MBBadmintonClub.com](mailto:Entertainment@MBBadmintonClub.com)

Thanks so much to all of you who have tirelessly volunteered for events so far! We didn't have room in our schedule for the Adult Poolside party this season, so we are planning a fun Fall event for Adult members and guests: Oktoberfest!!!! Bring your cherished beer stein, dust off your lederhosen and join the fun! Brats and Beverages will be served and live entertainment will be enjoyed!

Save the date, October 18th, 2008 6:30 pm

If you signed up to work the Adult Pool Party and want to work Oktoberfest, please contact me. Thanks again and see you there!

## Adult Badminton

DeDe Davis

[AdultBadminton@MBBadmintonClub.com](mailto:AdultBadminton@MBBadmintonClub.com)

We had a great summer in Adult Badminton and are looking forward to the fall. If you are new to the club or new to the sport of badminton, we would like you to come out and try it! Badminton is a wonderful sport for adults and is great exercise.

You have a couple of options for your inauguration to the sport. You can sign up for a private lesson with Coach (sign ups are on the bulletin board next to court one) or come on a Monday night for adult practice at 8 PM- let me know when you are coming and I or another

experienced player will meet you there. My contact information is:  
[adultbadminton@mbbadmintonclub.com](mailto:adultbadminton@mbbadmintonclub.com) or  
 click on the link through our webpage.

Also, we will be having an adult badminton tournament open to all on Friday, September 26th. Look for sign ups on the club bulletin board or alternately, e-mail me to sign up.

See you on the courts!

# OCTOBERFEST

*It's time to .....*

*"Roll out the Barrel"...*



**Who:** *MBBC Adult members and guests*

**When:** *Saturday, Oct 18, 2008 6:30 pm*

**Where:** *MBBC Lounge*

**Attire:** *Lederhosen and favorite beer stein greatly appreciated*

**Live Entertainment/Dancing/Food/Beverages**

**\*\*\*Save the date/Watch the Shuttlecock and website for more specific details!!!**

**RSVP to:** *Tammy Lipps 310.962.4597 OR tammyli@yahoo.com*

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|              |                               |
|--------------|-------------------------------|
| Sat. Sep. 13 | Club Workday: 8am-12pm        |
| Sun. Sep. 14 | Roster Photos: 6pm-2pm        |
| Fri. Sep. 26 | Friday Night Adult Tournament |
| Sun. Sep. 28 | Roster Photos: 6pm-2pm        |
| Sat. Oct. 4  | MB Hometown Fair: 10am-6pm    |
| Sun. Oct. 5  | MB Hometown Fair: 10am-5pm    |
| Tue. Oct. 7  | MBBC Board Meeting: 7pm       |
| Sat. Oct. 11 | Club Workday: 8am-12pm        |
| Sat. Oct. 18 | Octoberfest: 8:30pm           |

Calendar